

Individual Collectors

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Sadd, from a daguerreotype. Of course, it was made in the old days sixty or seventy years ago. It may therefore be considered as settled that this portrait was not that of our Territorial Governor, and parties who have files of our first volume are requested to make a memorandum to that effect upon the margin of the portrait itself. It is a matter of regret that this error occurred, but under the circumstances it was not to be avoided. Unless the truth had come to light as it has now happily been brought out, the portrait was liable to appear in future years when its character could not be determined. The only known genuine portrait of Gov. Chambers is that which we published facing page 441, Vol. I, of *THE ANNALS*, and this was engraved from the oil painting of George H. Yewell, N. A., who visited Kentucky many years ago for the purpose of painting it for the State of Iowa to which it now belongs.

INDIVIDUAL COLLECTORS.

They are often stigmatized as "cranks"—sometimes perhaps, in sorrow for their peculiar mental aberration—by unappreciative or unsympathizing people whose tastes run in other directions. But communities, states and the world, are vastly in their debt. Their work is one of the most prolific sources from which accessions come to libraries, museums, and art galleries. Probably there is not a county in Iowa which does not possess one or more collectors. Their tastes are as various as their names, running through every field of literature, art, archaeology and natural history. Their treasures are jealously guarded and cared for, but sooner or later will mostly go into museums or libraries, occasionally by purchase, but more often as gifts. The public at last is benefitted by their sacrifices and their good judgment. We have two gentlemen in Iowa who are doing a noble work in the collection of historical literature

pertaining to ours and surrounding States. We refer to Messrs. A. N. Harbert of Shellsburg, and Lew W. Anderson of Cedar Rapids. Each now owns a library—books, documents, pamphlets—of many hundred titles. They are constantly in search of this species of literature, so necessary to historical students and so valued by them. Each carefully scans the catalogues of dealers in second-hand books, eager to secure any rarities which may have come to light. Each carries on a large correspondence in his efforts to capture desirable and often expensive works which have long been out of print but which are vitally important to complete the chain of our history. They are still young men, but judging by their success up to this time, they will become possessed of collections of large extent and of great value, and after a time the State will profit by what they have accomplished. It would surprise the reader to know how long and how persistently each has pursued his quest for some rare book or pamphlet and what astounding prices they have often paid when the search was crowned with success.

Mr. Harbert has kindly loaned to the Historical Department several of his rare books and pamphlets, one of which we briefly mention as follows:

"Galland's Iowa Emigrant: containing a Map and General Descriptions of Iowa Territory." It was printed at Chillicothe, Ohio, by Wm. C. Jones, in 1840. This little book was written by Dr. Isaac Galland, who settled at Montrose, Lee county, Iowa, in 1827, and died there in 1858. It is a pamphlet of 32 pages, bound in boards, much like a Webster's Spelling Book of sixty years ago. It contains a general description of Iowa Territory, as it was known at that time, including a preface of three closely printed pages in fine type. Among the topics to which paragraphs are devoted are the following: Boundaries, history, character of the population, the rivers, the beautiful meadows (prairies), lakes, Indians, beasts, serpents, birds, wild fruits, military defence, speech of Black Hawk, concluding with a list of the executive officers of the Territory, members of the territorial legislature, lists of counties and post offices. It is illustrated with a copy of "Galland's Map of Iowa, compiled from the latest authorities." The book is in an excellent state of preservation, and we are confident will some day be reprinted in this State. At the present time this thin volume is one of the rarest of early Iowa publications and perfect copies command high prices.

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